

FIT FOR PURPOSE

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▶ ABOUT US

Agrément South Africa is an independent organisation established in 1969 by the Minister of Public Works. Its support structures bridge the public and private sectors, and include local and international professional and academic advisers.

Agrément South Africa is internationally affiliated through its membership with the World Federation of Technical Assessment Organisations.

▶ PRIMARY BUSINESS FOCUS

Agrément South Africa's core business is the certification of non-standardised construction products through technical assessments that verify whether or not the products and systems are fit for purpose.

▶ PRIMARY TARGET AUDIENCE

Agrément South Africa is an internationally acknowledged and independent South African Agency that serves the construction industry through the provision of assurance to specifiers, regulators, financial institutions and users. It introduces the benefits of innovation to the market, while minimising risk.

▶ AN AGRÉMENT CERTIFICATE

- A technical document that describes the product.
- Lists the uses for which the product's fitness for purpose has been assessed.
- Lists the requirements to be met and the conditions under which the required performance is to be attained.
- States which regulations the certificated products satisfy.

▶ VALIDITY

- Obtain a copy of the full certificate.
- Check whether the certificate is listed as "Active" by **Agrément South Africa** and that it is still valid.

The validity of certificates is three years subject to renewals.

- Check that provision/erection/installation will be done by a certificate holder or licensee who is registered with **Agrément South Africa**.
- Check whether any variations from the certificate have been approved by **Agrément South Africa**.
- Check that the intended use of the product is covered by the certificate.
- Check the conditions of the certification.

▶ EMERGING DEVELOPMENTS

In pursuit of its strategic priorities and objectives, **Agrément South Africa** is developing criteria to facilitate the certification of products using indigenous construction technology methods. These developments will give small and medium enterprises access to certification.

▶ CRITERIA AND TEST METHODS

Established in consultation with the relevant experts.

▶ ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE

Compliance with criteria is assured.

▶ QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Agrément South Africa's evaluations include an assessment of the applicant's quality management system. Implementation thereof is monitored at regular intervals after certification. The quality management systems of licensees of certificated products are also monitored.



► GRANTING OF CERTIFICATES

Construction products that have been assessed as fit for purpose are granted certificates by the Board of **Agrément South Africa**.

► REAPPRAISALS

Products are reappraised if:

- The certificate holder makes changes to the product.
- Changes are made to applicable regulations.
- There are changes in **Agrément South Africa's** assessment criteria that affect the product.

*Only an **Agrément South Africa** certificate holder, or its licensees who are registered with Agrément South Africa, may claim compliance with a certificate.*

► REASSURANCE

Agrément South Africa certification provides assurance of fitness for purpose through an objective assessment by an independent organisation with more than 40 years' experience.

► COMPLIANCE

Agrément South Africa certificates can be used to demonstrate compliance with regulations.

► ACCEPTANCE AND/OR APPROVAL

Agrément South Africa certificates facilitate acceptance and/or approval by designers and specifiers, regulating authorities, financial institutions, community support organisations and users.

► MARKETING BENEFITS

- **Agrément South Africa's** identification symbol and the designation of quality technical content can be used on promotional material.
- **Agrément South Africa's** certificate of fitness for purpose saves valuable selling time.
- **Agrément South Africa** can assist in promotional activities.
- **Agrément South Africa's** Directory of Certificates is widely distributed and accessible on the website.

► IN ADDITION

- Construction products with export potential can benefit from the assurance provided by certification.
- Certification assures customers that a quality management system has been implemented.
- "Spin-offs" may result from additional information revealed during the assessment process.
- Applying for certification proves that the applicant has confidence in the product.

*Enthusiasm and vision are inherent characteristics of our certificate holders. **Agrément South Africa** delivers certificates using impartial judgment to evaluate construction products, without dampening this enthusiasm of our clients. The aim is to protect the consumer, while enhancing business activity in the sector.*

► CONTACT US

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